

SOME PEOPLE crash and dash to pieces, without ever rising again. Others crush and shatter, but they gather the pieces to start all over. Such is this man, a tough hombre.

In 1979 Europe was flooded with heroin due to the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq War. Thousands were hooked to heroin abuse. Paul Cox of Dublin, Ireland was among the victims, wallowing in the squalor of heroin addiction.

An old instructor of Paul in Kenpo visited him while under rehabilitation. This visit eventually saved Paul from the gutters. He then resumed training in martial arts

The Phoenix

and slowly regained his health, strength, emotional stability, and confidence.

Paul points as his greatest moment seeing the

approving eyes of his Kenpo teacher when he received his 1st blackbelt degree. He rose from the horrid condition of addiction where he only encountered stares of contempt from people around to now a rank of martial art prominence.

Master Paul ranks 3rd dan in Kenpo and holds a blackbelt degree in Eskrima which he started training on in 1992 when

Eskrima and Kenpo in West Africa, Lebanon, Cuba, and Mexico. He did security work for a Lebanese high official.

In his unbridled past, he figured a number of times in bloody encounters and came out unscathed, leaving behind his wake a trail of disabled opponents. Master Paul is founding member of the Wild Geese Martial Arts, deriving inspiration from the patriotic Wild Geese of Ireland that for more than 200 years fought the English. A treaty, however, ended this war; the Wild Geese swore not to take up arms against the English.

Master Paul Cox is a warrior, albeit now a peaceful one, doing battles with the demons in himself. And he has overcome his own weaknesses, his limitations, and life's hurdles. Indeed, a true Master.



Master Pat O'Malley and John Harvey introduced the Filipino fighting art in Ireland.

Master Paul has traveled the globe, teaching and propagating

<<< from Previous page

headed by a Datu, not as a ruler but as an administrator, with the community as children taking on individual tasks based on one's capacity, experience, and the parental sanguinary lineage approved by the community. Each task is defined and of his visits to Datu Mampahaluna (Narciso L. Sagubay, Sr.), a highly respected tribal leader in the

Higaonon community of Lumads in Mindanao, the then TESDA Region 10 Director Silvano B. Maranga (Datu Mambubulig) offered to convey the former's greetings and wishes to confer the honored title of Datu to Atty. Diony, in view of his lifelong effort, dedication, and contribution to the development and propagation of this indigenous fighting art.

Thus, in the afternoon of May 23 this year in the very halls of the international WEKAF headquarters in Banilad, Cebu City, in a very fitting 2-hour ceremony complete with all the trimmings and rituals based on the hallowed traditions and customs of the Higaonon people, Datu Mampahaluna, assisted by Datu Mambubulig, bestowed, baptized, and granted the title of

Datu Panagsulat on Atty. Dionisio "Diony" Canete. The sacrificial blood of chicken was sprinkled on Philippine coins and on the person of the Supreme Grandmaster, to protect his self, his family, and his properties from evil.

As practitioners of this self-defense system, we exclaim "Andam! Yuko! Mabuhay!" to Datu Panagsulat, the Supreme Grandmaster, Atty. Diony Canete.